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LETTER DATED 12 JULY 1993 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that the members of the Security Council have taken note with appreciation of your report of 29 June 1993 (S/26005) regarding the recent discovery, at locations inside and outside El Salvador, of illegal arms deposits belonging to the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional (FMLN).

The members of the Security Council express their continuing concern regarding this grave violation of the Peace Accords, and agree with your opinion that the maintenance of clandestine arms deposits by the FMLN has raised questions of confidence and trust and that the seriousness of this situation cannot be over-emphasized.

The members of the Council reiterate their view that both parties should comply fully with their respective obligations under the Peace Accords, and especially that the FMLN should provide a complete inventory of all its arms and munitions both inside and outside El Salvador and deliver them to ONUSAL for their destruction in accordance with the provisions of the Peace Accords.

The members of the Council note the FMLN's promise to disclose all its holdings of arms and munitions and subsequently to destroy them by 4 August 1993. The members of the Council stress that the complete disarmament of the FMLN, and the reintegration of its members into the civil, political and institutional life of the country, form an essential part of the peace process.

The members of the Security Council share your assessment that it is an indication of the strength and irreversibility of the peace process that a serious incident of this nature has not been allowed to derail the implementation of the Peace Accords. The members of the Council also agree with your view that the cancellation or suspension of the FMLN's status as a political party could deal a severe blow to the peace process.

The members of the Council welcome the letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua addressed to you on 22 June 1993 (S/26008), and expect that the Government of Nicaragua will comply with its international obligations to prevent the use of its territory for the illegal storage or transshipment of arms and other war matériel and to investigate fully all the illegal arms deposits discovered in Nicaragua, including possible links to international terrorism.

The members of the Council welcome your intention to keep the Council informed of further developments, especially the actions the FMLN has promised to complete by 4 August 1993.

(Signed) Sir David HANNAY
President of the Security Council